

## Guidelines For Establishing Truck Routes

The Attorney General's office has reviewed the North Carolina General Statutes and the North Carolina Administrative Code as they relate to the establishment of truck routes. The following guidelines were formed from the conclusions drawn by the Attorney General's office.

- (1) Through trucks in excess of a specified gross vehicle weight or axle load limit may be prohibited on a primary route between two points of the State Highway System if there exists another primary route of comparable length which is established as a "truck route" between those two points. See GS 20-116(h).
- (2) Secondary roads or non-system roads cannot be included, either as a route on which trucks are prohibited or as a route designated as a truck route, for any truck route ordinance enacted under the authority of GS 20-116(h). Only primary routes may be used under the authority of GS 20-116(h).
- (3) Truck routes may be established on any road on the State Highway System, including secondary roads, under the authority of GS 20-141(i) and NCAC T19A:02B.0213. Under this authority, trucks cannot be prohibited from using other routes.
- (4) Municipalities have the authority under NCAC T19A:02B.0213 to establish by ordinance truck routes within their corporate limits. Such truck routes must have the approval of NCDOT if State System Streets are involved.
- (5) NCDOT has the authority under NCAC T19A:02B.0213 to establish truck routes within a municipality. Truck routes may traverse both State Highway System streets and municipal system streets; however, non-system streets may be designated as a truck route only by the municipality.
- (6) Under NCAC T19A:02B.0213 NCDOT will be responsible for all necessary signing on the State Highway System streets with the municipality being responsible for signing that portion of the truck route traversing non-system streets.
- (7) Under GS 20-118(b)(4), NCDOT may establish light traffic roads and further restrict the axle weight limit on such light traffic roads lower than the statutory limits provided under GS 20-118. Interstate, US, or NC routes cannot be designated as light traffic roads.

References: GS 20-116(h), GS 20-141(i), NCAC T19A:02B.0213, GS 20-169, GS 136-18(5), GS 20-118(4)